

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A recording medium comprising a base material and an ink-receiving layer provided on said base material and containing a particulate material;

5 said particulate material containing particles of crystalline aluminum oxide;

 said ink-receiving layer being obtained by applying a coating solution containing said particulate material to said base material followed by drying to
10 form a coating layer, applying water to the coating layer to cause swelling and pressing the surface thereof against a heated mirror-surface drum to conduct drying treatment;

 wherein the specular gloss of the surface of said
15 ink-receiving layer is not less than 20% as measured at 20° .

2. A recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said particulate material contains particulate
20 aluminum oxide by not less than 70wt%.

3. A recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said particulate material contains particulate aluminum oxide by not less than 90wt%.

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4. A recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said ink-receiving layer contains a binder and

the mixing ratio of said particulate aluminum oxide to said binder is within a range of between 5 : 1 and 25 : 1 by weight.

5 5. A recording medium according to claim 1,
wherein the average particle diameter of said aluminum
oxide particles is not more than 0.3 μ m and not less
than 80% of the total aluminium oxide particles has a
particle diameter of not more than 1.0 μ m.

10 6. A recording medium according to claim 1,
wherein the BET specific surface area of the aluminum
oxide is between 100 and 160 m²/g.

15 7. A recording medium according to claim 1,
wherein said base material comprises a fibrous
substrate and a surface layer containing barium sulfate
provided on the fibrous substrate and said ink-
receiving layer is provided on said surface layer.

20 8. A recording medium according to claim 7,
wherein said fibrous substrate weighs 150 to 180g/m².

25 9. A recording medium according to claim 7 or 8,
wherein the Stoeckgt sizing degree of said fibrous
substrate is not less than 200 seconds.

10. A recording medium according to claim 1,
further comprising an alumina-containing layer provided
on the surface of said base material opposite to the
surface onto which said ink-receiving layer is
5 provided.

11. An image-forming method of forming an image
by applying a recording liquid to the surface of the
ink-receiving layer of the recording medium according
10 to claim 1 in response to recording information.

12. An image-forming method according to claim
11, wherein said application of the recording liquid is
performed by means of an ink-jet recording system.
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13. A method of manufacturing a recording medium
comprising a base material and an ink-receiving layer
provided on said base material and containing a
particulate material, comprising:
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producing a coating layer by applying a coating
solution containing said particulate material
containing particles of crystalline aluminum oxide to
said base material followed by drying;

applying water to the coating layer to cause
25 swelling and

pressing the surface of the swelled coating layer
against a heated mirror-surface drum to produce said

ink-receiving so as to have a specular gloss of the surface thereof not less than 20% as measured at 20°.

14. A manufacturing method according to claim 13,
5 wherein said particulate material contains particulate aluminum oxide by not less than 70wt%.

15. A manufacturing method according to claim 13,
10 wherein said particulate material contains particulate aluminum oxide by not less than 90wt%.

16. A manufacturing method according to claim 13,
15 wherein said ink-receiving layer contains a binder and the mixing ratio of said particulate aluminum oxide to said binder is within a range of between 5 : 1 and 25 : 1 by weight.

17. A manufacturing method according to claim 13,
20 wherein the average particle diameter of said aluminum oxide particles is not more than 0.3 μ m and not less than 80% of the total aluminium oxide particles has a particle diameter of not more than 1.0 μ m.

18. A manufacturing method according to claim 13,
25 wherein the BET specific surface area of the aluminum oxide is between 100 and 160 m²/g.

19. A manufacturing method according to claim 13,
wherein said base material comprises a fibrous
substrate and a surface layer containing barium sulfate
provided on the fibrous substrate and said ink-
5 receiving layer is provided on said surface layer.

20. A manufacturing method according to claim 19,
wherein said fibrous substrate weighs 150 to 180g/m².

10 21. A manufacturing method according to claim 19
or 20, wherein the Stoeckgt sizing degree of said
fibrous substrate is not less than 200 seconds.

15 22. A manufacturing method according to claim 13,
further comprising: a step of providing an alumina-
containing layer on the surface of said base material
opposite to the surface onto which said ink-receiving
layer is provided.